

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O P 271536Z JAN 75

FM UMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9217

INFO USOECD PARIS PRIORITY 1619

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 0352

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, NO

SUBJ: IAE PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY

REFS: (A) USOECD PARIS 30729; (B) STATE 11534; (C) STATE 14791;

(D) OSLO 339; (E) STATE 17235; (F) STATE 18403

1. EMBASSY GREATLY APPRECIATES PROMPT RESPONSE TO OSLO 339
CONTAINED IN STATE 14791 AND STATE 18403. I DISCUSSED AT
SOME LENGTH SUBSTANCE OF THESE CABLES WITH FRYDENLUND IN
TWO SESSIONS WITH HIM OVER WEEKEND, MAKING IT CLEAR THAT
WE WISH DAVIGNON TO HANDLE NEGOTIATIONS ON NORWEGIAN
ASSOCIATION. FRYDENLUND IS SYSPATHETIC TO THIS DESIRE. I
DID NOT REPEAT NOT GIVE FRYDENLUND TEXT OF DRAFT STATEMENT
(STATE 18403) BUT DISCUSSED IT ALONG LINES ENDERS USED
WITH KLEPPE (STATE 14791).

2. FRYDENLUND SAID THAT HE HOPED A STATEMENT COULD
BE AGREED UPON WHICH WOULD NOT NECESSITATE ANY CHANGE
IN THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AFFILIATION AGREEMENT
REACHED ON DECEMBER 19. TEXT OF THIS AGREEMENT HAS
LEAKED TO THE PRESS AND PARLIAMENT WAS THOROUGHLY
FAMILIAR WITH IT. PARLIAMENT WOULD INTERPRET ANY
CHANGE IN THE AGREEMENT INTRODUCING NEW RESTRICTIONS
OR OBLIGATIONS ON NORWAY AS A RETREAT BY THE GOVERNMENT
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UNDER U.S. PRESSURE. IF AGREEMENT COULD BE LEFT AS

IS AND A SATISFACTORY STATEMENT WORKED OUT, THEN STATEMENT COULD BE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT AS CLARIFYING THE AGREEMENT.

3. FRYDENLUND REMAINS COMMITTED TO REACHING AN AGREEMENT AND COULD PERSONALLY PROBABLY ACCEPT OUR PROPOSED REVISIONS. TO SELL THE REVISIONS TO THE CABINET AND EVENTUALLY PARLIAMENT, HOWEVER, HE FEELS THAT HE MUST BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT (A) ANY PROVISION ASSUMING POSITIVE ACTION IS COMPATIBLE WITH NORWAY HAVING THE FINAL DECISION; (B) THE REQUIREMENT FOR ANNUAL CONSULTATIONS ON STAND-BY CAPACITY WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE USED AS A LEVER TO INCREASE NORWEGIAN PRODUCTION BEYOND WHAT NORWAY WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE PLANNED; AND (C) NORWAY CAN BE SEEN TO HAVE BENEFITTED AS WELL AS MADE CONCESSIONS IN ITS CLARIFYING STATEMENT. FRYDENLUND HOPED, THEREFORE, THAT THE DECEMBER 19 AGREEMENT OF AFFILIATION WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED, AND THAT THE STATEMENT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD CAN THEN BE PRESENTED AS CLARIFYING THE ROLES OF BOTH THE IEA AND NORWAY UNDER THE AFFILIATION AGREEMENT: ON THE ONE HAND INDICATING WHAT NORWAY IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE IN THE WAY OF EXTRA RESOURCES (INCLUDING THE KEY INDICATION THEY ARE PREPARED TO GIVE MORE THAN THEY WOULD HAVE AS FULL MEMBERS); BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, CONFIRMING THAT THE AGREEMENT IN NO WAY LIMITS NORWEGIAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER ITS OWN RESOURCES (IN LINE WITH OPENING STATEMENT IN STATE 11534).

4. THE CRUX TO REACHING AN AGREEMENT LIES IN THE STATEMENT PRESUMING POSITIVE ACTION. WE WONDER WHETHER DEPARTMENT CAN AGREE TO A COMPROMISE WHICH WOULD LEAVE ORIGINAL AFFILIATION AGREEMENT UNCHANGED, WITH THE STATEMENT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD CARRYING THE PRESUMPTION OF POSITIVE ACTION (I.E. "IT IS THE INTENTION OF NORWAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES, ETC," PER DRAFT IN STATE 17235). I BELIEVE THAT NORWAY WOULD FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT, FOR THE WELL-KNOWN DOMESTIC REASONS WHICH THEY HAVE EXPLAINED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, TO TIE THEMSELVES PUBLICLY NOW TO ANY MORE DEMANDING STATEMENT PRESUMING CONFIDENTIAL

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POSITIVE ACTION, PARTICULARLY IF IT INVOLVED A REVISION OF ARTICLE 1 OF THE AFFILIATION AGREEMENT. WHATEVER THE LANGUAGE, THE ULTIMATE DECISION ON PARTICIPATION IN IEA ACTION MUST BE TAKEN BY THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, I AM CONVINCED THAT MAJORITY OPINION IN NORWAY WILL FAVOR DEMONSTRATING SOLIDARITY WITH THE WEST IN ANY CRISIS LIKELY TO ARISE AND IT IS ULTIMATELY THIS FACT OF NORWEGIAN LIFE

RATHER THAN THE LANGUAGE WE DEVISE WHICH WILL ENSURE THAT NORWAY PAYS ITS WAY AS A MEMBER OF THE WEST. THE FACT THAT OTHER IEA MEMBERS DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE THE SAME DIFFICULTIES WITH THE ORIGINAL DRAFT AGREEMENT AS THE U.S. ONLY MAKES THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT MORE RELUCTANT TO RISK A DIVISIVE INTERNAL DEBATE TO OBTAIN FURTHER REVISIONS.

5. I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN ALL OUR INTERESTS THAT FRYDENLUND BE GIVEN BROAD POWERS BY THE CABINET TO WIND UP THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH DAVIGNON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF HE HAD SOME FAIRLY CLEAR IDEA OF THE EXTENT OF OUR WILLINGNESS TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE ALONG THE LINES DISCUSSED ABOVE, HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CABINET SHOULD BE GREATLY FACILITATED AND THE LIKELIHOOD INCREASED THAT HE WILL BE GIVEN A BROAD NEGOTIATING MANDATE. FRYDENLUND HAS GIVEN ME A NUMBER WHERE HE CAN BE REACHED IN THE COUNTRY WHERE THE CABINET IS MEETING TODAY AND TOMORROW. IN THE EVENT I HAVE ANY INFORMATION BEARING ON THIS ISSUE. TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE, I SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO PHONE HIM BEFORE TODAY'S CABINET MEETING BREAKS UP (JANUARY 27).

6. FRYDEN LUND LEAVES FOR BRUSSELS AT NOON TOMORROW, HE ASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD, OF COURSE, NOT LET DAVIGNON KNOW THE EXTENT OF OUR CONSULTATIONS ON THE EVE OF NEGOTIATIONS IN BRUSSELS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT I BE AUTHORIZED TO INDICATE TO FRYDENLUND: (1) WHETHER OR NOT WE BELIEVE WE CAN ALLOW THE ORIGINAL DRAFT AGREEMENT TO STAND, IF SUPPLEMENTED BY A STATEMENT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD ALONG THE LINES PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH FRYDENLUND (STATE 14791)? AND
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(2) WHETHER WE CAN MEET HIS INTEREST IN HAVING LANGUAGE INCLUDED IN THE STATEMENT TO THE BOARD THAT WOULD CLARIFY THE ROLES OF NORWAY AND THE IEA UNDER THEIR AFFILIATION AGREEMENT AND CONFIRM THAT THE AGREEMENT IN NO WAY LIMITS NORWAY'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER ITS RESOURCES
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